

**COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
JANUARY 09, 2003**

ACTION MINUTES

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC, AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. AUDIO CASSETTE TAPES OF THE ACTUAL MEETING ARE AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG's OFFICE.

The Community, Economic & Human Development Committee held its meeting at the SCAG offices downtown Los Angeles, CA. There was a quorum.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Alexander, CEHD Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. There were self-introductions of members and staff around the table.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor William Alexander, **Chair**
Councilmember Melanie Andrews
Councilmember Laura Richardson-Batts
Mayor Ken Blackwood
Councilmember Jeff Comercheo
Councilmember Betty DeSantis
Mayor Pro Tem Mike Dispenza
Councilmember Alta E. Duke, **Vice- Chair**
Councilmember Henry Harkema
Mayor Ronald Loveridge
Mayor Cristina Cruz Madrid
Councilmember Shirley McCracken
Mayor Kathryn McCullough
Mayor John McTaggart
Councilmember Efren J. Moreno, Jr.
Mayor Pro Tem Bev Perry
Councilmember Deborah Robertson

SANBAG Subregion
City of Compton
City of Long Beach
City of Lomita
WRCOG Subregion
Las Virgenes Malibu Conejo COG
City of Palmdale
City of La Palma
City of Paramount
City of Riverside
SGVCOG Subregion
OCCOG Subregion
OCCOG Subregion
South Bay Cities COG
San Gabriel Valley COG
City of Brea
SANBAG Subregion

Councilmember M. Jo Shields
Mayor Charles White
Councilmember Bob Yousefian

City of Brawley
WRCOG Subregion
City of Glendale

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Councilmember Ralph Bauer
Mayor Robert Bruesch
Supervisor Robert (Bob) Buster
Councilmember Bart Doyle
Councilmember Wendy Greuel
Councilmember Janice Hahn
Councilmember Susan Longville
Councilmember Alex Padilla
Councilmember Bedford Pinkard
Councilmember Marsha Ramos
Councilmember Ed Reyes
Mayor George Stettler
Mayor Pro Tem Van T. Tran

City of Huntington Beach
City of Rosemead
County of Riverside
City of Sierra Madre
City of Los Angeles
City of Los Angeles
SANBAG Subregion
City of Los Angeles
City of Oxnard
Arroyo Verdugo Subregion
City of Los Angeles
CVAG Subregion
OCCOG Subregion

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Stephen Higa, Senior Planner from the City of Laguna Niguel after the presentation of Item 4.1 “Technical Balanced Growth Projections”, read from a letter he distributed to the CEHD members. The subject of the letter was Additional Criteria for Developing a Technically Balanced Growth Projection. **(A copy of said letter appears after the last page of these minutes.)**

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

The following consent calendar items were MOVED (White) SECONDED (DeSantis) APPROVED. Councilmember Bob Yousefian from the City of Glendale abstained for this vote due to his absence from the December 5, 2002 CEHD meeting held at the Ontario Convention Center.

3.1 Approval Items

3.1.1 Minutes of December 05, 2002

3.2 Receive and File

3.2.1 Growth Visioning Program Progress Report

In the agenda attachment to this item on page10, the paragraph “Project Launch”, Mayor Betty DeSantis of Westlake Village, representing Las Virgenes Malibu Conejo COG, asked to see a list of the media invited to make sure that people from Ventura County were also included.

3.3 Information

3.3.1 Growth Visioning Subcommittee Minutes for November 21, 2002

4.0 ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Technical Balanced Growth Projection

Huasha Liu, Manager of Planning Data and Forecasting, introduced Paul Silvern, Vice-Chair of the Forecasting Technical Task Force who would give a report.

Mr. Silvern wanted to discuss with the Committee a recommendation that the FTTF is has brought forward for the concurrence of this Committee as well as the Regional Council specifically to reaffirm the need for what the FTTF calls a Technical Balanced Growth Projection to inform the work of the Regional Transportation Plan.

Mr. Silvern mentioned the discussion on evaluation criteria in the feedback that was received on the trend projection that took place at the last meeting from each of the jurisdictions throughout the region. There was also discussion on whether those criteria were appropriate and some concern on the part of the Committee and others about the degree to which the work being done by the FTTF would, in fact, modify the feedback that was received from local government or whether it was being used in some other way. Mr. Silvern went on to say that in thinking carefully about this response at the last meeting the FTTF has come up with a slight change in the recommendation that they think is very important in responding to these comments. He said that the FTTF is proposing is that the original Trend Projection, which was developed in the absence of local government input, the sum of local input that was obtained from local government and what the task force is calling a Technically Balanced Projection, all three, be brought forward in parallel for consideration along with the Growth Alternatives that will come from the Growth Visioning and other processes so the Committee will understand the implications of each attempt to

portray the future. He also said that the Technically Balanced Growth Projection would be developed by FTTF using criteria, some of which are enumerated in the staff report, and perhaps others, transportation modeling, etc, which will be applied to both the trend projection and to the sum of the local input. Saying this, Mr. Silvern, mentioned that this would be presented, probably with some variations, to show how the growth in the region will evolve over the next 30 years, in the absence of any conscious change by the Regional Council to alter growth policy.

Mr. Silvern then asked the Committee for their concurrence in the general direction in the approach that FTTF proposes to take both in terms of using their best technical judgment with the advise of staff and the consultants bring to bear to the issue, and to bring all these projections forward simultaneously.

A question was asked of Mr. Silvern for a clarification of the term, “a conscious change”. In answer, Mr. Silvern explained that in forecasting lingo, there is typically a baseline projection and a forecast, which are two distinctly different things. He went on to say that a baseline projection is a forward looking picture of what the future holds if current trends and reasonably foreseeable changes in those trends were to occur, but without any conscious decisions to modify that picture. He said that a forecast, which is what results ultimately in the Regional Transportation Plan reflects conscious policy choices by, in this case, the Regional Council to alter the baseline projection because presumably it doesn’t find the picture of the future in the baseline to be acceptable, either because of the stress on the transportation system, stress on environmental caring capacity or inequitable distribution of burdens of benefits.

A discussion then ensued in which the Committee members asked a variety of questions on land use, water, trend projections, technically based data, problems in the various cities having a workshop, and with responses given by Mr. Silvern, Jim Sims, Director of Information Services, and Mr. Higa from the City of Laguna Niguel.

Mr. Sims informed the Committee that the information received to-date was not available to staff in the past. He also reminded the Committee that staff is not proposing to adopt any forecast or criteria, but to authorize staff to continue to work with cities, counties, and subregions to develop more technical information to bring back to the Committee that will address the kinds of concerns that have been brought forth is the discussion today.

1st MOTION: 1) that staff and CEHD Committee is going to move forward, that all of the technical projections, including trend projections, local input, technically balanced growth projections will be moved forward for policy debate together with

Growth Visioning alternatives and along with the FTTF's recommendations. 2) that a joint workshops with CEHD and FTTF be scheduled as soon as possible to share information and analysis of the trend projections and local input and their implications in order to evaluate results of transportation demand modeling analysis. 3) to discuss technical approaches to develop technically balanced growth projections.

2nd Motion: the addition of developable land, including open space (as a suggestion for the example of criteria).

3rd Motion: the addition from the letter read by Mr. Stephen Higa, Senior Planner from the City of Laguna Niguel in which their staff added one more guideline to Attachment A, page 20 of the CEHD attachment of Item 4.1 titled "Examples of Guidelines To Be Used Formulating The Technically Balanced Growth Projection" The addition goes as follows: Land Use Capacity Criteria – the distribution of housing units shall consider factors such as the availability of vacant, unsubdivided land, the age of the housing stock, and the capacity of infrastructure.

It was MOVED (McCullough) and SECONDED (McCracken) TO APPROVE the FTTF's recommendations, with objections to the MOTIONS from (Andrews), (Madrid), and (Batts).

4.2 SCAG 2003 Legislative Program

Donald Rhodes, Manager of Government Affairs presented the 2003 Legislative Program: a compilation of legislative efforts already underway during 2002 and newly identified focus areas.

He made reference to TEA-3 as being a big issue, along with housing and land use. He mentioned that staff has been in contact with the Legislature in Sacramento about various ways to get funding for RHNA. Staff will report on the status of RHNA funding discussions in February.

Mr. Rhodes informed the Committee that the Government Affairs staff will closely be monitoring the activities of the CEHD Committee and adjust and add on to the Legislative Program, and give frequent updates as what is occurring in Sacramento.

It was MOVED (Perry) and SECONDED (McCullough) AND UNANIMOUSLY AGREED to approve the recommended action and to 1) seek necessary funding to fulfill the RHNA mandate, and 2) if this doesn't occur, seek legislation to suspend the mandate until such funding is available.

4.3 Housing Summit Report and Legislative Discussion

Darryl Taylor reported on the 3rd Annual Housing Summit, which was held on December 13 at the SCAG offices with approximately 80 people in attendance. He mentioned that of the 80 in attendance half were elected officials, with John Longville as the morning kick-off speaker and the Henry Cisneros as the afternoon speaker. A panel of experts conducted a discussion on issues related to mobility, air quality, education as related to housing.

Mr. Taylor wanted to thank and congratulated the Steering Committee members, Mayor Betty DeSantis, Councilmember Shirley McCracken, and Councilmember Susan Longville for their leadership and efforts for putting together a top notch program.

One of the members asked if the Housing Summit could be held after the first of the year rather than December. She felt that December was not a good time to hold this function and because of all the work staff puts into this effort a better turn out would be gained on any other month.

Jacob Lieb, in answer to the above question, reminded the Committee that one of the main reasons the Summit was held at that time is because that is a good time to get together and think through policies for the coming year, in particular the proposed legislation for staff to bring forward to support or oppose that is going to Sacramento. He said the timing to do so is particularly right in December because new legislation is coming out in January and also because we are able to get the members of the Legislature to attend while they are on their break.

Mr. Lieb asked that the Committee direct the staff on how to pursue a policy program in Sacramento. He then went through some of the suggestions given by staff, particularly on Housing Element Reform, an issue that was looked at very intensively last year.

Mr. Lieb stated that, based on some of the discussions at the Housing Summit, a more comprehensive approach to look at housing, in reference to infrastructure issues, transportation and mobility issues, and water would make sense. He also mentioned that one of the things done in the past was to propose a consolidation of planning and forecasting functions in order to also use the same forecast in Regional Transportation Plans, Air Quality, and Housing among others.

He went on to say that one of the other issues discussed at the Summit has to do with Regulatory Relief, in particular, related to construction defect litigation. There was bill that was passed last year and the staff is asking for direction to monitor whether or not the bill has been effective.

Mr. Lieb also stated that as part of staff's legislative strategy for this year is to actively support and work with the League of California Cities and the County State Association of Counties (CSAC) on some of the issues important to local government related to the State budget in helping to defend cities and counties interest.

Alfredo Gonzales spoke about the conversations SCAG staff has had with housing staff in Sacramento, concluded that they are willing to discuss policy but nothing with money. He also mentioned that Senator Dunn said that he would reintroduce a version of or something like SB 910, and staff will look at this again.

The meeting was then open for Committee member's discussion on SB 910 and other Legislative issues. After discussion, staff a suggested direction for SCAG to continue to seek those housing element reforms that we identified as priorities last year, to do so independently and to not pursue those within the context of the SB 910 version, and not support bills that contain penalties for housing element non-compliance.

It was MOVED (Robertson) and SECONDED (Yousefian) AND UNANIMOUSLY AGREED to continue to seek those housing element reforms that we identified as priorities last year, to do so independently and to not pursue those within the context of the SB 910 version, and not support bills that contain penalties for housing element non-compliance. Further, SCAG will support League of Cities and CSAC on issues of concern to local governments.

5.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 SCAG Regional Economic Forecast Conference

Bruce DeVine reported on the SCAG's 6th Annual Economic Conference held on November 22, 3003 at the Huntington Library.

Mr. DeVine thanked Councilmember Karen Rosenthal from the City of Claremont, who opened the conference, and he also thanked CEHD's Vice-Chair, Councilmember Alta Duke from the City of La Palma who moderated the conference.

He mentioned that materials that were handed out at the conference were available to those who would like to have them and also mentioned that the same material could be found on the SCAG website.

Mr. DeVine stated that the forecaster had said that the year 2002 was a very difficult year for our economy, the recession that had taken place in the nation in 2001 effected us harder in 2002. He said that the forecasters are predicting some improvement in 2003, but not much growth in employment and sales until 2004.

Mr. DeVine informed the Committee that the sponsorships were CitiCorp, LAEDC, Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Caltrans, Southern California Edison, and Southcoast Air Quality Management District who donated a total of \$30,000. The registration fees totaled about \$4,500, expenses totaled about \$14,200 and there was a positive balance of \$20,300 which will go into the general fund. He also mentioned that the great things were the venue, the content of the program, the quality of the speakers, the handouts, and attendance was not as good as we'd hoped with only 110 people which was less than last year, and about four elected officials.

5.2 Growth Visioning Subcommittee Report

Lynn Harris, reporting for Mayor Bev Perry, wanted the Committee to know that a ten minute presentation by the Growth Visioning Compus Consultant in charge outreach, and this will give all a good feel for what is going to happen this month, we will be launching this month. She also mentioned that Mayor Perry has signed a hundred letters of invitation for the stakeholders group, and finally the website goes live on January 23, and the website subconsultant wanted to thank everyone who has responded.

6.0 THE CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair did not make a report at this meeting.

7.0 STAFF REPORT ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were not staff reports at this meeting.

8.0 COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments at this meeting.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The motion was MOVED (White) and SECONDED (Madrid) to adjourn at 12:15 p.m.

Signed: _____
Lynn Harris
Manager, Community Development